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Borough of Dartford

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1946.

T. FARTHING,
Medical Officer of Health.

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BOROUGH OF DARTFORD

Annual Report for 1946 of the Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
DARTFORD,
1st August, 1947.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE BOROUGH OF DARTFORD.

SIR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my report as Medical Officer of Health for the year 1946.

The Report is arranged in accordance with the instructions of the Minister of Health.

I should like to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their cordial support during the year and also to the Staff of the Public Health Department for their co-operation.

I am, Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

THOMAS FARTHING,
Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF.

*DR. T. FARTHING, M.B. (Edin).—Medical Officer of Health (part time); also Medical Officer, Dartford Joint Infectious Diseases Hospital, Dartford.

*DR. C. S. PIMM, M.B., Clinic Medical Officer. Resigned, August, 1946.

*DR. B. HEWLETT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Clinic Medical Officer.—Commenced duties, September, 1946.

*W. E. BALCHIN, A.R.S.I., F.S.I.A.—Chief Sanitary Inspector (Certified as Meat and Other Food Inspector); also Inspector under the Shops, Petroleum, and Hackney Carriage Acts.

*T. H. IDDISON, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.—Additional Sanitary Inspector (certified as Meat and Other Food Inspector). Commenced duties April 15th, 1946.

*A. GARTSIDE, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.—Additional Sanitary Inspector. Returned from service with H.M. Forces and recommenced duties June 17th, 1946.

*MISS B. HOATHER.—Health Visitor (R.S.I.), S.R,N., S.C.M.

*MRS. A. M. WALTON.—Health Visitor (R.S.I.), S.R.N., S.C.M.

MISS E. SORRELL.—Chief Clerk.

MISS P. E. BROWN.—Clerk.

* Contribution to salary by Exchequer Grant.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	4,234
Population (Registrar-General's estimated figure Mid-1946) ...	37,030
Population (Census, 1931)	28,928
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1946) according to Rate Books)	10,251
Rateable Value	£299,759
Sum represented by 1d. rate	£1,186 12 5

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

The Borough of Dartford is situate in the lower portion of the Darenth Valley, and the rising ground to the East and West of the river. The area of the district is 4,234 statute acres, land and water.

The district is chiefly an industrial one. The residential area at the west end of the town, in the neighbourhood of The Heath, however, continues to develop, and there is a growing number of residents whose business is outside the Borough.

There is, in addition to the ordinary population, a large institutional population as the following institutions are situate in the District: —

London County Council Hospitals, Joyce Green, Orchard and Long Reach.
London County Mental Hospital.
Kent County Council, The County Hospital.
St. Vincent's Industrial School.

STAPLE INDUSTRIES.

The principal industries of the district are: —

Engineering.
Paper Making.
Manufacture of Drugs and Chemicals.
Flour Milling.

There are no industries in the district which have a prejudicial effect on health.

OPEN SPACES.

The District is provided with open spaces for pleasure and recreation which include: —

Dartford Heath	340 acres.
Central Park	27 acres.
Hesketh Park	10 acres.

Facilities for outdoor sports are provided at all these open spaces.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR 1946.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Live Births.—Legitimate	362	333	695
Illegitimate	19	15	34
	381	348	729

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of population	19.68
Live Birth Rate for England and Wales for the same period ...	19.1

Still Births.—Number of still births during the year 19

Rate per 1,000 total births 25.40

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Deaths	212	157	369

Death Rate per 1,000 of population 9.94

Death Rate for England and Wales for the year 11.5

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth:—

From Sepsis ... ... None

Other Causes 1

Infantile Mortality.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	10	8	18
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	10	8	18

Death Rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births ... 24.68

Infantile Death Rate for England and Wales for 1946 43

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All causes Certified	7	1	1	2	11	3	2	2	....	18
Uncertified	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Diphtheria	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Measles	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Whooping-cough	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Erysipelas	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Meningitis (not tuberculous)	....	....	....	1	1	....	....	....	....	1
Convulsions	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Bronchitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Pneumonia (all forms)	....	....	....	....	....	1	....	....	....	1
Enteritis	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	1	....	2
Congenital malformation	1	....	....	....	1	1	1	....	....	3
Premature Birth	3	1	1	1	6	....	....	....	....	6
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	1	....	....	....	1	1	....	....	....	2
Other Causes	2	....	....	....	2	....	....	1	....	3
Totals	7	1	1	2	11	3	2	2	....	18

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1946.

	Causes of Death.	Male.	Female.
1.	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—
3.	Scarlet fever	—	—
4.	Whooping cough	1	—
5.	Diphtheria	2	—
6.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	15	10
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	2
8.	Syphilitic diseases	2	—
9.	Influenza	1	1
10.	Measles	—	—
11.	Ac. polio-myel. and polio enceph.	—	—
12.	Ac. inf. enceph.	—	—
13.	Cancer of buc. cav. oesoph and uterus	3	2
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	10	3
15.	Cancer of breast	—	8
16.	Cancer of all other sites	14	13
17.	Diabetes	1	—
18.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	19	15
19.	Heart disease	64	48
20.	Other diseases of circ. system	8	5
21.	Bronchitis	13	7
22.	Pneumonia	13	6
23.	Other respiratory diseases	3	1
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	3	—
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years	2	—
26.	Appendicitis	—	—
27.	Other digestive diseases	4	5
28.	Nephritis	5	4
29.	Puerperal and post-abort. sepsis	—	—
30.	Other maternal causes	—	1
31.	Premature birth	3	2
32.	Congenital mal.; birth inj.; Infant dis.	5	6
33.	Suicide	2	1
34.	Road traffic accidents	1	—
35.	Other violent causes	3	3
36.	All other causes	13	14
		210	157

SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL STATISTICS FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS, 1942—1946.

	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
Population (Registrar General's estimated figure).	34,660	34,570	33,910	34,280	37,030
Births	595	599	651	581	729
Birth Rate	17.22	17.33	19.19	16.9	19.68
Still-births	19	15	18	18	19
Birth Rate (England & Wales).	14.2	16.5	17.6	16.1	19.1
Deaths	332	344	367	354	369
Death Rate	9.58	9.95	10.82	10.3	9.94
Death Rate (England & Wales)	12.9	12.1	11.6	11.4	11.5
Deaths of infants under 1 year	21	33	26	17	18
Infantile Death Rate	35.17	55.09	39.94	29.08	24.68
Infantile Death Rate (England & Wales).	59	49	46	46	43

NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

(*A*) HOME NURSING.

The Dartford District Nursing Association, supported by voluntary contributions, maintains three District Nurses.

The Corporation make a grant to this Association and in return the services of the Nurses are available for the home nursing of cases of Measles, Whooping Cough and cases referred by the Medical Officer of Health.

(*B*) HOME HELP SCHEME.

The Corporation have a scheme for the provision of home helps for maternity cases.

Two home helps are employed full time for this purpose and a register is kept of women who are willing to assist when more than two are required.

(*C*) MIDWIVES.

Two County Midwives are appointed to attend cases in the Borough and in addition one other Midwife practises in area.

(*D*) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The following are the Clinics and treatment centres in the town:—

Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics, Market Street.	Maintained by the Council.
School Clinic, King Edward Avenue	Maintained by the Kent County Council.
Tuberculosis Clinic, Overy Street	
Venereal Clinic, The County Hospital	

In connection with the County Hospital there are Ophthalmic, Orthopædic, Neurological, X-Ray, Electrical, Urological, and Dental Clinics available for residents in the area of the Dartford Public Assistance Committee as out-patients.

Also at the Livingstone Hospital there are X-Ray and Electrical Clinics.

(*E*) HOSPITAL SERVICES.

The following hospitals are situated in the district and are available for the residents. In addition to these, the facilities offered by the London hospitals, which are within a reasonable distance, are used by the inhabitants.

1. The County Hospital, West Hill, for General Purposes and Maternity, under the management of Kent County Council, available for persons resident in the area.

2. Livingstone Hospital, East Hill, for General Purposes and Maternity, supportel by Voluntary Contributions under the management of a voluntary committee, available for persons resident in the Dartford Borough and Dartford Rural Districts.

3. Bow Arrow Isolation Hospital, Bow Arrow Lane (for Infectious Diseases), under the management of the Joint Hospital Committee, available for persons resident in Dartford Borough, Dartford Rural District, Bexley Borough, Crayford Urban District, and Swanscombe Urban District.

Cases of Small Pox are admitted into the London County Council Small Pox Hospital, Joyce Green.

(*F*) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(*i*) Infectious Cases.—The Dartford Joint Hospital Committee maintain two ambulances for the removal of cases of infectious disease from their homes to the hospital.

(*ii*) General Cases.—The local division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade continues to do very useful work. They maintain a motor ambulance which is available for accidents day and night and the removal of sick persons to local or London hospitals.

The ambulances of the Kent County Council are also available for the removal of patients within and outside the District.

LABORATORY WORK.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The work is carried out at the Kent County Council Laboratory, Sessions House, Maidstone.

BYE-LAWS.

The Corporation have Bye-laws relating to the following:—

Common Lodging Houses.
Good Rule and Government.
Houses Let in Lodgings (Housing Act, 1925).
Means of Escape from Fire (Factories and Workshops).
Nuisances.
Offensive Trades.
Removal of Offensive Matter.
Slaughterhouses.
Tents, Vans and Sheds.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply.

The Borough is supplied with water by the Metropolitan Water Board. The supply is from deep chalk wells and is satisfactory in both quality and quantity. The water is chlorine treated, and has no plumbo-solvent action.

Frequent tests are carried out by the Board and in addition periodical samples are taken by the Sanitary Inspector and submitted to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination. All samples taken during the year were satisfactory.

With the exception of nine houses, all houses in the Borough are supplied from the Board's mains. Of the nine houses not on the Board's mains eight are supplied from deep artesian wells.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The district is main sewered, and the water carriage system is general. The sewage is dealt with by the West Kent Main Sewage Board (of which the Dartford Corporation is a constituent Authority) at their works at Long Reach, Dartford. Their system of treatment is very satisfactory, and no complaints have been received regarding the outfall works during the year.

The only extensions of the sewerage system carried out during the year have been in connection with the new Temple Hill Housing Estate.

There are only 96 houses, situated in the more rural areas, which are not connected to the sewers. Over 99% of the houses in the district are connected to the sewers.

Rivers and Streams.

Pollution of the River Darent occurred during the year and was traced to a works in the Dartford Rural District and dealt with by that authority.

Closet Accommodation.

The system is a water carriage one. In the portions of the area where main sewers are not available, there are the following houses with conveniences of the type mentioned: —

W.C.'s connected to cesspools	70 and 8 flats
Pail Closets	18

The cleansing of cesspools and pail closets is not carried out by the Local Authority but by the owners or occupiers of the premises.

Scavenging.

House refuse is dealt with by controlled tipping at the Corporation's Heath Lane Tip.

During the summer this tip was treated with D.D.T. preparations to prevent flies, crickets, etc., and this treatment appears to have been very successful.

The war-time difficulties of collection were largely overcome towards the end of the year and a weekly collection of refuse was again instituted.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES AND BATHS.

The Corporation have provided and maintain the following: —

Public conveniences with wash and brush up facilities and slipper baths for both sexes at Spital Street.

Public Conveniences for both sexes at the Central and Hesketh Parks.
Public Conveniences for both sexes on The Brent.
Public Conveniences for men near the Cattle Market.
Open air Swimming Baths in Burnham Road.

The number of persons using the Slipper Baths is given below, together with comparative figures for 1945: —

	1945	1946
Men	12,217	13,817
Boys	738	799
Women	5,995	6,472
Girls	425	379
TOTAL	19,375	21,467

The open-air Swimming Bath in Burnham Road has a continuous heating and chlorination plant. Samples of the water are taken from time to time and show that the water is maintained in a very satisfactory state.

ERADICATION OF VERMIN AND CLEANSING.

During the year disinfestation was carried out at 24 houses by spraying with suitable vermicides by the Corporation's disinfector. Where necessary the owners were requested to strip the rooms and loosen the skirting boards, etc.

The treatment of scabies is carried out at the Cleansing Station, King Edward Avenue.

During the year 183 males and 258 females were treated.

The cases were notified by the medical practitioners or referred to the department by the School Medical Service. As far as possible, the whole of the family are treated when a case is notified.

The Health Visitors and the staff of the Day Nursery keep observation with regard to head lice and general cleanliness and provision is made for treatment of cases found.

PROPAGANDA.

A Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign was carried out during the year. Posters were displayed, articles put in the Press, films shown at the local cinemas and lectures given by myself to meetings arranged by the various organisations in the town.

A display of Health Films was also given in the Borough by the Kent County Council. The department co-operated by displaying posters, etc.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

This is dealt with in the Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspectors which is appended hereto.

HOUSING.

Good progress has been made during the year in the provision of houses in the Borough.

The number of houses completed during the year is 241 made up as follows:—

By Corporation:	
Temporary Prefabricated houses	100
Permanent houses	62
By Private Builders	79
	241

The temporary prefabricated houses have been erected on three sites, viz.:—The Fairfield and Meadowside, Lowfield Street and Blackman's Close, Heath Lane and the permanent houses have been built on the Corporation's Housing Estate, Princes Road, where a further 92 houses were in the course of erection at the end of the year.

A new site on Temple Hill has been acquired for housing purposes. Contracts have been let for 162 permanent prefabricated and 138 traditional houses, and the erection of 132 of these houses was commenced in 1946.

The Corporation also had at the end of the year 43 houses requisitioned, which provide accommodation for 59 families.

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

One house (17, Manor Place) was represented as unfit for human habitation under the Housing Act, 1936, during the year and an undertaking that the premises shall not be used for human habitation was accepted from the owners.

Two further houses (10 and 12, Heath Street) were inspected and were the subject of a representation in the year 1947.

The war-time difficulties with regard to labour and materials have continued to hinder the work of repairs to houses and the abatement of nuisances.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified	Under 1 year	1 to 3	3 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 25	25 and over	Age unknown
Diphtheria	6	...	1	2	1	...	1	1	...
Scarlet Fever	36	...	1	3	23	4	3	3	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	27	...	1	2	1	3	4	16	...
Erysipelas	14	...	...	...	...	...	3	11	...
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Enteric Fever	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Chicken Pox	90	...	5	14	53	12	5	1	...
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	99	4	12	17	60	6	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	13	...	5	5	2	1	...	...	...
Dysentery	9	...	...	...	...	...	3	6	...

SMALLPOX.

No cases of Small Pox were notified during the year.

DIPHTHERIA.

Nine cases of Diphtheria were notified (exclusive of Institutional cases), compared with one in 1945.

On admittance to hospital 3 cases notified were found to be bacteriologically negative.

Contacts with cases notified, and also children referred to the Department by the school teachers, are swabbed with a view to the elimination of carriers.

Anti-toxin is supplied free to Medical Practitioners for use in cases of Diphtheria.

An Immunisation Clinic is held weekly at the M. & C. W. Clinic, and in addition there is a scheme for immunisation by the medical practitioners in the district.

During the year 625 children were immunised and 66 children given a secondary or reinforcing injection.

SCARLET FEVER.

The number of Scarlet Fever cases notified (exclusive of institutional cases) was 36 as compared with 62 in 1945.

Of these cases 25 were nursed at home and 11 removed to hospital.

There were no return cases during the year.

ENTERIC FEVER.

No cases were notified during the year from residents in the Borough.

MEASLES.

There were 99 cases of Measles during the year.

Home visitation of cases of measles is carried out by the nurses of the District Nursing Association when thought desirable.

Arrangements are in force whereby if the conditions are unsuitable for home nursing, cases are admitted into the Bow Arrow Hospital.

INFLUENZA.

The incidence of influenza was again of a mild type and calls for no special mention.

FOOD POISONING.

Three cases of Food Poisoning were notified during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table gives details of the cases notified and deaths occurring during the year: —

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
1—5	1	....	1	....	....	....	2	....
5—10	....	1	1	....	....	....	....	1
10—15	....	1	....	....	....	....	....	....
15—20	3	5	....	....	....	2	...	....
20—25	4	3	....	1	2	....	....	....
25—35	6	11	....	....	3	4	....	....
35—45	4	1	....	1	2	2	....	....
45—55	2	3	....	2	2	1	....	....
55—65	1	1	....	....	6	....	....	1
65 and upwards	3	....	....	....	....	1	....	...
Totals	24	26	2	4	15	10	2	2

16 of the 56 cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year, and 12 cases notified previous to 1946 were removed to Sanatoria for treatment during the year.

Previous notification of the disease was not received with regard to eight of the deaths occurring during the year.

Under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1924, returns have to be made quarterly to the County Medical Officer, giving a summary of the Tuberculosis Register for the District. The following is a statement of the number of cases on the Register at the beginning and end of the year: —

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Number on Register at commencement of Year	190	98	37	45	370
Number on Register at end of Year	207	109	35	47	398

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Particulars of Attendances at the Child Welfare Clinic.

Number of new entrants during the year	504
Total number of children who attended during the year ...	1,149

Ante-Natal Clinic.

Total number of cases on register during the year	274
Number of new cases	237
Number of clinics held	50
Total number of attendances	825
Average attendance per clinic	16.5

Birth Control Clinic.

This clinic was held monthly during the year. 144 new cases received advice and 400 attendances were made. Every care is taken to see that the objects of the Clinic are fulfilled.

Maternity Service.

A scheme is in force whereby expectant mothers can be admitted to either the County Hospital or the Livingstone Hospital for their confinements. Financial assistance is given according to the income of the applicants.

243 cases were admitted under the scheme during the year.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

3 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified during the year. One occurred at the County Hospital, one at Livingstone Hospital and one where the confinement took place at the patient's own house.

Other Services.

In connection with the ancillary services of the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics, 20 children received orthopædic treatment, and 2 mothers dental treatment during the year.

MILK (MOTHERS AND CHILDREN) ORDERS, 1919 and 1921.

During the year 1946 the amount of milk supplied under these Orders was as follows: —

217 lbs. dried milk free.

The distribution of Liquid Milk free, or at a reduced price, is undertaken by the Food Office.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

The two Health Visitors are appointed as Infant Protection Officers.

Number of visits paid to foster children during the year ...	125
Number of foster mothers on register at end of year	12
Number of foster children on register at end of year	12

Under the Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939, Notice of Adoption was received with regard to 20 children. The adoption of 16 children was completed during the year.

HOME VISITATION.

VISITS OF HEALTH VISITORS.

The following visits were paid by your Health Visitors during the year:—

Number of new-born infants visited	618
Number of visits to infants under one year	2,204
Number of visits to children over one year	3,917
Total visits made by Health Visitors during year	6,121

In addition to these visits the following have been paid:—

Ante-natal visits	125
Death enquiries	2

DAY NURSERIES.

The Day Nursery established at 21, West Hill has been carried on during the year and the attendances well maintained.

The Nursery at Oakfield Lane was transferred during the year to the Kent Education Committee.

Appended hereto are the following:

(1) Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

(2) Report on the Inspection of Factories, Workshops, etc., in the District.

I am,

SIR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient servant,

THOMAS FARTHING,

Medical Officer of Health.

Annual Report of Sanitary Inspector.

SIR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to report as follows on the Sanitary Inspection, etc., of the Borough for the year 1946: —

INFECTIOUS DISEASE WORK.

Cases investigated	64
Premises disinfected (Tuberculosis)	9
„ „ (other infectious diseases)	47
In addition 31 disinfections of verminous houses were carried out.	
Sets of bedding disinfected, 16 articles	245
Library books disinfected	38

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

Routine inspections under this Act are still held up owing to the lack of alternative accommodation. During the year three houses where special circumstances existed have been inspected prior to being represented by the Medical Officer of Health under Section 9 of the above Act.

COMPLAINTS.

702 complaints of Nuisances, etc., have been received during the year and duly investigated and dealt with.

DRAINAGE WORK.

Number of Drains tested by water—New Buildings	313
„ „ „ „ „ „ Existing Buildings and Works under notice	56
„ „ „ „ „ smoke—New Buildings	73
„ „ „ „ „ „ Existing Buildings and Works under notice	15
Total number of drains tested during year	457

NOTICES SERVED.

Preliminary Notices served, 550; complied with 512; in hand, Dec. 31	137
Statutory Notices „ 28; „ „ 23; „ „	12

INSPECTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH FOOD SUPPLIES.

Slaughterhouse inspections	39
Meat and other food inspections	216
Market and Hawkers inspections	84
Food preparation premises inspections	167
Bakehouse inspections	59
Fried Fish Shop inspections	70

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS.

The following licences have been granted by the Corporation: —

TUBERCULIN TESTED MILK.

Supplementary Licences	3

PASTEURISED MILK.

Dealers' Licences	2
Supplementary Licences	9

During the year eight samples of Graded Milk were taken, all of which complied with the prescribed conditions.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order.

Registered Purveyors (Wholesale)	7
„ „ (Retail)	15
(Including 2 dealers registered for the sale of sterilised milk in unopened bottles)	

The premises of 8 of the Registered Purveyors are situated outside the Borough.

Number of Cowsheds ...	3 ...	Inspections	29
Number of Dairies ...	6 ...	Inspections	38
Number of Milkshops ...	5 ...	Inspections	35
Number of contraventions of the Order dealt with			2

ICE CREAM.

The premises used for the sale and manufacture of ice cream were frequently inspected during the year. Seven samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination. In the samples that did not comply with a presumptive standard, the question of greater care being taken was discussed with the makers and improvements carried out. All the registered manufacturers were issued with a list of recommendations with regard to the production of a pure article.

Number of Manufacturers registered	19
Number of Dealers registered	44
Number of Inspections of Premises	85

UNSOUND FOOD.

The total quantity of unsound food destroyed or salvaged during the year was 1 ton 19 cwts. 1 qr. 0lbs., as follows: —

Beef: 2 cwt. 0 qrs. 27 lbs.
Mutton: 2 qrs. 11 lbs.
Pork: 14 lbs.
Offal: 1 qr. 0 lbs.
Chickens: 17 lbs.
Fish: 14 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lbs.
Tinned Goods: 14 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lbs. (consisting of: meat 140 tins, fish 208 tins, vegetables 171 tins, milk 1,073 tins, fruit 58 tins, jam 35 tins, soup 5 tins).
Tomatoes: 40 lbs.
Dried Fruit: 50 lbs.
Milk Powder: 200 lbs.
Cereals: 193 lbs.
Flour: 144 lbs.
Biscuits: 112 lbs.
Pickles: 54 lbs.
Jelly Powder: 33 lbs.
Cake Mixture: 29 lbs.
Miscellaneous: 68 lbs.

FOOD AND DRUG SAMPLING.

During the year 101 samples were obtained (74 formal and 27 informal) and were submitted to the Public Analyst. The following table shows the results of the analysis of these samples: —

	Formal.	Informal.	Genuine.	Not Genuine.	Remarks.
Milk	24	—	24	—	
Almond Flavouring ...	—	1	1	—	
Butter	3	—	3	—	
Cake, etc., Flour	—	2	1	1	One sample deficient in CO^2. Stock withdrawn and surrendered.
Cayenne Pepper	1	—	1	—	
Chocolate Cup	—	1	1	—	
Cinnamon	1	—	1	—	
Cocoa	3	—	3	—	
Coffee	5	—	5	—	
Coffee Extract	—	1	1	—	
Condensed Milk	—	2	2	—	
Cooking Fat	1	—	1	—	
Curry Powder	1	—	1	—	
Dried Fruit	1	—	1	—	
D i-Sauce	—	1	1	—	
Drugs	2	10	11	1	One sample of glycerine (Informal) 9% water. Further formal sample genuine. Official warning to dealer and packer.
Fish Paste	—	1	1	—	
Flour	7	1	7	1	Informal sample of Self-Raising Flour deficient in CO^2. Stocks withdrawn. Later samples genuine.
Ground Ginger	3	1	4	—	
Gelatine	4	—	4	—	
Ice Cream	—	1	1	—	
Jam	2	—	1	1	One sample deficient in fruit. Further action in 1947.
Jelly Crystals	—	1	1	—	
Lard	4	—	3	1	Cooking fat sold as lard. Official warning.
Lemonade Crystals ...	—	1	1	—	
Margarine	4	—	4	—	
Meat Extract	—	1	1	—	
Meat Paste	—	1	1	—	
Mustard	1	1	2	—	
Rissoles	1	—	1	—	
Semolina	1	—	1	—	
Vinegar	3	—	3	—	
Whisky	2	—	2	—	
TOTALS	74	27	96	5	

LODGING HOUSES, ETC.

Number of Common Lodging Houses on Register	1
Number of Houses let in lodgings on Register	1
Inspections	18
Contraventions of Byelaws dealt with	2

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

Number of inspections made	448
Contraventions dealt with	2

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number of Rag and Bone Dealers	2
„ „ Knackers' Yards	1
„ „ Inspections	22

OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Stableyards, Piggeries, etc., Inspected	204
Inspections re Tents, Vans and Sheds Bye-laws	46
Inspections of Cinemas	4
Re-inspections and visits to work in progress	1,314

SMOKE NUISANCES.

Number of observations taken	9

One smoke nuisance was dealt with during the year.

BUILDING MATERIALS PRIORITY SCHEME.

In accordance with the Ministry of Health's and other circulars 257 certificates have been issued with regard to the supply of materials for urgent sanitary work.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

No legal proceedings were taken during the year.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT.

On December 3rd, 1945, the Corporation appointed a whole-time Rodent Operator and it was then possible to give much more attention to the subject of rodent destruction.

During the year the following work has been carried out: —

Number of complaints received and dealt with	68
Number of premises treated	186
Total estimated kill	3,291
Number of block control treatments carried out	6
Number of drains tested in connection with rodent infestation ...	4

At the request of the Ministry of Food, a survey and preliminary test baiting of the sewers of the Borough was undertaken during the year and in 50 of the 99 manholes tested, traces of rats were found.

A scheme of treatment for the areas which had been found to be infested was formulated and approved by the Ministry of Food. In the first treatment, 344 manholes were pre-baited and on the laying of poisoned bait (Zinc phosphide) partial takes were observed in 130 manholes. This was followed by a second treatment when 191 of the manholes were pre-baited and poisoning was carried out with arsenic and on this occasion partial takes were observed in 42 of the manholes.

It will be noted that there were takes at 130 manholes in the initial treatment and at only 42 manholes in the second treatment and I consider that the treatment was very successful.

Also at the request of and with the co-operation of the Ministry of Food a comprehensive survey of the whole Borough was undertaken followed by the treatment of all the infested premises found. The following are the results of this survey and treatment: —

Premises where infestation was suspected	124
Number which on baiting proved not to be infested	19
Premises where disinfestation was carried out by the W.A.E.C. or private contractors	6
Block control operations carried out	6
Number of rats killed according to the Ministry of Food formula for the various types of poison used	1,457

It is proposed to make a further survey of the Borough and of the sewers during 1947.

NUISANCES REMEDIED AND WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER THE VARIOUS NOTICES DURING THE YEAR.

Roofs repaired	93
Eaves, gutters and rainwater pipes repaired and renewed	30
External brickwork repaired, re-pointed or rendered	10
Damp walls remedied	77
House or part of house cleansed	48
Interior walls and ceilings repaired	102
Lighting or Ventilation improved	1
Broken sash cords replaced	4
Defective floors and other woodwork repaired or renewed ...	73
Defects in connection with water supply remedied	18
Cooking apparatus repaired or renewed	14
Washing coppers repaired or renewed	7
Sink, etc., waste pipes repaired or renewed	21
New sinks provided	11
Yard paving repaired or renewed	2
Gulley fenders repaired or renewed	1
Houses formerly cesspool drained connected to public sewers ...	1
Nuisance from cesspool	11
Defective drains repaired	29
Drains cleared	180
Defective vent shafts or fresh air inlets repaired or renewed ...	3
New manholes provided	2
W.C.'s repaired	123
W.C.'s reconstructed	2
Defective ashbins renewed	55
Nuisances from the keeping of animals remedied	5
Accumulations of manure or offensive refuse removed	10
Other nuisances abated	125

I am,

SIR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient servant,

WALTER E. BALCHIN,

Sanitary Inspector.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

(1) INSPECTIONS.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Inspections	Number of Notices	Prosecutions
(1) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	36	84	6	Nil.
(2) Factories not included in (1) to which Sec. 7 applies.				
(*a*) Subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement) Order, 1938	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
(*b*) Others	90	137	6	Nil.
(3) Other Premises under the Act (excluding Out-workers Premises)	14	46	Nil.	Nil.
TOTAL	140	267	12	Nil.

(2) CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	No. of cases in which defects were found.				
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred To H.M. Inspector.	Referred By H.M. Inspector.	Prosecutions
Want of Cleanliness (S1) ...	3	3	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S4) ..	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S7):					
(*a*) Insufficient	2	3	—	—	—
(*b*) Unsuitable or defective	9	10	—	—	—
(*c*) Not separate for sexes	—	1	—	—	—
Other Offences (not including offences relating to Homework)	2	2	1	—	—
TOTAL	17	20	1	—	—

OUTWORK.

SECTIONS 110 and 111.

Nature of Work.	No. of Outworkers in Aug. List required by Sec. 110(1).	No. of Cases of Default in sending Lists to Council.	No. of Instances of Work in Unwholesome Premises.	Notices Served.	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel: Making, etc.	6	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Lamp Shades	1	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
TOTAL	7	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.